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D E F E N C E
O F

Dr. *P O C U S* and Dr. *M A L U S*

Against the P E T I T I O N of the

U N B O R N B A B E S.

DEFENCE
OF
DR. POCCUS and DR. WALKER
Against the PETITION of the
UNBORN BABES

A
D E F E N C E
O F
Dr. *POCUS* and Dr. *MALUS*,
Against the PETITION of the
U N B O R N B A B E S
T O T H E
C E N S O R S
O F T H E
Royal College of PHYSICIANS
O f L O N D O N.

L O N D O N:

Printed for M. COOPER at the *Globe* in *Pater-Noster Row*, 1751.
[Price Three-pence.]

DEFENCE
OF
Dr. POCOCK and Dr. MALCOLM
Against the PETITION of the
UNBORN BABES
TO THE
CENSORS
OF THE
Royal College of Physicians
OF LONDON.

L O N D O N:
Printed for M. Cooper at the Globe in Paternoster Row, 1751.
[Price Three-pence.]

is to be thought otherwise. A Con-
 sideration of the reasons for the sake of Truth, to be
 considered as an example of our Jurisdiction.

III. We the Defendants do aver, and are ready
 to prove, that the Defendants, whom we
 have under our Hands, in difficult Births, were
 brought to that pass by misadventure falling first into
 the hands of a Midwife; a poor Canny Fellow,
 who for some time rose up and down this
 Town, blissing, and then in bed, sweating
 so long that they were reduced to the weakess and

Royal College of Physicians of London.

IV. We do deny that the learned and worthy
 Defendants are Fellows of the Roy-
 al College of Physicians, London, we appre-
 hend no Complaint can legally be laid against us, in
 any shape, for Mal-practice. * No man being capa-
 ble of committing an Error after he has been once
 admitted into the College.

VI. We do deny that the learned and worthy
 Defendants are Old Women. We confess ourselves such; having Modesty enough,
 not

* As absurd as this may be thought; it was the actual Speech
 made at a Censors Board some years ago. * Vid the Petition.

not to presume to be thought otherwise. A Confession we recommend for the Sake of Truth, to be followed, as an Example, by many of our Fraternity.

III. We the Defendants do averr, and are ready to make Oath, That most of the Females, whom we have had under our Hands, in difficult Births, were brought to that pass by unhappily falling first into the Hands of *Mad Frank*; a poor Crazy Fellow, who has for some time, gone up and down this Town, bliftring, and keeping them in bed, Sweating so long that they were reduced to the weakest and lowest State; and unable to undergo the natural Pains of Labour. And when by the Art of Physic (not our Own, your Defendants not being willing to take any undeserved Merit to themselves) they were enabled to bring forth their Burdens, the *Babes* were so weak and puny, that they did not live above two or three Days. Some lingered two or three Months, and very few held out to the End of a Year.

IV. We do deny that the learned and worthy Sir William gave an Opinion, as is set forth, in a Marginal Note to the Petition, that the *Child in the Womb* was an Abscess, and as such was to be let out. *

It
 • Vid the Petition. p. 4.

It being well known, that it was the aforefaid Sir William's Opinion that there was no need of the Seminal Fluid TO BE LET IN for the Purpose of Conception. And that he has practifed agreeable to that Opinion for many Years, by means of a Tube, a Description of which, we have given in a Note below. *

¶ The Defendants Doctor *Pocus* and Doctor *Malus*, beg leave to infist that the Petition against them is in it itself invalid; should it be ever so well grounded in Reason and Justice. The Mistake of a Letter is known to be a Flaw in any Indictment at Common Law; and must be much more so in a Petition of this Nature; † there being no fuch Man as Doctor *Maulus*; the Person really meant and intended, is a Descendant of a famous Old Roman Family, fince wonderfully encreased, and to which Doctor *Pocus* himfelf is nearly allied, well known by the name of MALUS.

Horace

* This Machine is a Sphaeroidical Oblong, made of a particular fretching soft Membrane, in which the Part *erecto capite* is introduced and tyed to the Bottom of the Region of the Os *Pubis*; 'tis to be feen at the Royal College of Physicians, London; to whom Sir William has prefented it for their Ufe, with the following Infcription.

*Condon-atio Gulielmi Fusci
Equitis Aurati. &c.*

† Dr. *Pocus* is remarkable for his uncommon Understanding in the Law, and is extremely converfant in the right Spelling People's Names. A remarkable Instance of this may be feen in the Battiad, Canto 1.

Horace makes very honourable and particular Mention of this Race, as worthy of singular Regard.

— *erat dignus describi, quod MALUS, aut fur, in
Quod MOECHUS foret, aut sicarius, aut aliqui
FAMOSUS,*—

VI. We do further insist and are ready to make Oath, That we never made Use of any other noxious Instruments than our Hands only, being thoroughly Conscious that Nature never intended any other Part about us to be of Use to any living Creature whatsoever.

VII. Lastly, As to the SOLEMN OATH taken at the College upon Admission, to correct Abuses, &c. we do appeal to yourselves and the whole Body of the College, whether that SOLEMN OATH has not been always consider'd as a meer Form, and as such never regarded, but kept or broke as it best suited our Ends. We could add other cogent Reasons to the above-mention'd, but are unwilling to take up your Time already too much engag'd in the weighty Concerns

+ Dr. Parn is remarkable for his uncommon Understanding in the Law, and is extremely conversant in the right Spelling People's Names. A remarkable Instance of this may be seen in the British, Cant.

(9)

cerns of the College, with any farther Defence, hoping this sufficient to clear us from what we are charg'd with in the Petition now before you. And so we humbly leave it to you to do as you shall in your *unerring* and *infallible* Wisdom think fit.

Signed

POCUS.

MALUS.

F I N I S.